

PROPOSED REVISED PROCEDURES

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR DEPARTMENT MANUAL

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Chapter 2; Appendix 2

Categorical Exclusions; Extraordinary Circumstances

Extraordinary circumstances exist for individual actions within CXs which may:

- 2.1 Have significant adverse effects on public health or safety.
- 2.2 Have adverse effects on such natural resources and unique geographic characteristics as historic or cultural resources; park, recreation or refuge lands; wilderness areas; wild or scenic rivers; national natural landmarks; sole or principal drinking water aquifers; prime farmlands; wetlands (Executive Order 11990); floodplains (Executive Order 11988); national monuments; and other ecologically significant or critical areas.
- 2.3 Have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources [NEPA Section 102 (2) (E)].
- 2.4 Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks.
- 2.5 Establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects.
- 2.6 Be directly related to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects.
- 2.7 Have adverse effects on properties listed, or eligible for listing, in the National Register of Historic Places.
- 2.8 have adverse effects on species listed, or proposed to be listed, on the List of Endangered or Threatened Species, or have adverse effects on designated Critical Habitat for these species.
- 2.9 Have the potential to violate a Federal law, or a State, Local, or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment.
- 2.10 Have the potential for a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (Executive Order 12898).
- 2.11 Restrict access to and ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites by Indian religious practitioners or adversely affect the physical integrity of such sacred sites (Executive Order 13007).
- 2.12 Significantly contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of noxious weeds or non-native invasive species known to occur in the area or actions that may promote the introduction, growth, or expansion of the range of such species (Federal Noxious Weed Control Act and Executive Order 13112).